

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) A method of transferring electronic cash from an information processing apparatus in a shop to a user device, characterized by:

said information processing apparatus in a shop and said user device mutually authenticating each other and sharing a temporary key therebetween;

said user device encrypting a monetary amount to be transferred, appended with a signature of said user device, with said temporary key, and transmitting the monetary amount to said information processing apparatus in a shop;

said information processing apparatus in a shop decrypting said monetary amount received thereby with said temporary key and retrieving said monetary amount;

said information processing apparatus in a shop encrypting said monetary amount appended with said signature of said user device with said temporary key and transmitting the encrypted monetary amount to said user device; and

said user device decrypting said encrypted monetary amount received thereby with said temporary key and adding said monetary amount to the monetary amount previously held by said user device.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The electronic cash transfer method according to claim 6, wherein:

said information processing apparatus in a shop transmits the monetary amount of electronic cash to be transferred together with a device number unique to said information processing apparatus in a shop encrypted with a public key of a management apparatus to said user device.

Claim 8. (Cancelled).